

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 11 and 13; cancel Claims 7 and 15-48, without prejudice; and add new claims 49 and 50 as indicated below. The status of all pending claims is as follows:

1. (Original) A lighting unit comprising a light guide plate, a light source, and a truncated pyramid arranged between the light guide plate and the light source, said truncated pyramid having a base, a top smaller than the base, and a slope extending between said base and said top, said light source being arranged in close contact with said top of the truncated pyramid, said light guide plate being arranged in close contact with said base of the truncated pyramid, so that light is propagated from a light emitting part of the light source to the light guide plate without passing through any air layer.

2. (Original) A lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein said truncated pyramid and said light guide plate are integrated with each other, and the light source is attached to the truncated pyramid.

3. (Original) A lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein said light source and said truncated pyramid are integrated with each other, and the truncated pyramid is attached to the light guide plate.

4. (Original) A lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein: if the refractive index of the truncated pyramid is n and an angle between the slope and a line parallel to an axis of the truncated pyramid is α , the angle α of the slope of the truncated pyramid is equal to or greater than $\arcsin(1/n)$.

5. (Original) A lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein: if the refractive index of the truncated pyramid is n and an angle between the slope and a line parallel to an axis of the truncated pyramid is α , the angle α of the slope of the truncated pyramid ranges from 30° to 45° .

6. (Original) A lighting unit according to claim 5, wherein the truncated pyramid comprises an adhesive member.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) A lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein the light emitting part of the light source is smaller than or equal to the top of the truncated pyramid.

9. (Original) A lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein the light emitting surface of the light source is smaller than or equal to the top of the truncated pyramid.

10. (Original) A lighting unit according to claim 1, further including a reflecting member placed to at least partially surround the light source and the truncated pyramid.

11. (Currently Amended) A lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein a light absorbing member is located near a border between the light guide plate and the truncated pyramid, wherein the light absorbing member at least partially surrounds a portion of the truncated pyramid.

12. (Original) A lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein the light source comprises at least one LED.

13. (Currently Amended) A lighting unit comprising a light guide plate, a light source, and a truncated pyramid arranged between the light guide plate and light source and formed as a wedge-shaped member, a base of the truncated pyramid being joined to or placed in close contact with the light guide plate, said light source being located near the truncated pyramid, and wherein a reflecting member is placed to surround the light source and the truncated pyramid, and a light absorbing member is located near a border between the wedge-shaped member and the light guide plate, and wherein the light absorbing member at least partially surrounds a portion of the truncated pyramid.

14. (Original) A display device including a lighting unit according to one of claims 1 to 13, and a display element.

15-48. (Cancelled)

49. (New) A lighting unit according to claim 1, wherein said top is an outermost peripheral surface.

50. (New) A lighting unit according to claim 13, wherein said top is an outermost peripheral surface.